Case 1:24-cv-00837-JLS Doci	ument 1 Filed 09/09/24 Page 1 of 13
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK	SEP 9 2024  Revised 07/07 WDNY  MARY C. LOEWING! TH. CLERY  RESTERN DISTRICT OF NY
Quanta Crittenden 29 Roswell Place Tongwanda, NY 14150 Name(s) of Plaintiff or Plaintiffs	Jury Trial Demanded: Yes No No 24 CV 837
The Trish Banshee Pub 257 Franklin Street Buffalo NY 14202 Name of Defendant or Defendants	DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTCV-
(EEOC) complaint, a copy of the Equal Empa copy of the "Right to Sue" letter you receive so may delay your case.  Note: Only those grounds raised in the chair	qual Employment Opportunity Commission bloyment Opportunity Commission decision, AND wed from the EEOC to this complaint. Failure to do rge filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity e federal district court under the federal
This action is brought for discrimination in enapply):	mployment pursuant to (check only those that
(amended in 1972, 1978 and by the Ci color, gender, religion, national origin NOTE: In order to bring suit is	n federal district court under Title  ght to sue letter from the Equal
(amended in 1984, 1990, and by the A 1986, Pub.L.No. 99-592, the Civil Rig NOTE: In order to bring suit i Discrimination in Employment Equal Employment Opportunit	n federal district court under the Age Act, you <b>must first <u>file charges</u></b> with the y Commission.
Americans with Disabilities Act of 199	90, as codified, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12112-12117

**JURISDICTION** is specifically conferred upon this United States District Court by the aforementioned statutes, as well as 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1343. Jurisdiction may also be appropriate under 42 U.S.C. §§ 1981, 1983 and 1985(3), as amended by the Civil Rights Act of 1991, Pub.L.No. 102-166, and any related claims under New York law.

**NOTE:** In order to bring suit in federal district court under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you must first obtain a <u>right to sue letter</u> from the

(amended by the Civil Rights Act of 1991, Pub.L.No. 102-166).

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

In addition to the federal claims indicated above, you may wish to include New York State

claims, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a).

V	New York State Human Rights Law, N.Y. Exec. Law §§ 290 to 297 (age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, sex, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, marital status).
<b>PART</b> 1.	My address is: 29 BOSWELL Place Tonawanda, NY
	My telephone number is: $\frac{746-923-5143}{}$
2.	The name of the employer(s), labor organization, employment agency, apprenticeship committee, state or local government agency who I believe discriminated against me is/are as follows:
	Name: The Irish Banshee Pub
	Number of employees: 15-100 EmployeeS
	Address: 257 Franklin Street Buffalo, NY 14202
3.	(If different than the above), the name and/or the address of the defendant with whom I sought employment, was employed by, received my paycheck from or whom I believed also controlled the terms and conditions under which I were paid or worked. (For example, you worked for a subsidiary of a larger company and that larger company set personnel policies and issued you your paycheck).
	Name:
	Address:
CLAII 4.	I was first employed by the defendant on (date): 10/29/202

5.	As nearly as possible, the date when the first alleged discriminatory act occurred is:
	12/05/2022
6.	As nearly as possible, the date(s) when subsequent acts of discrimination occurred (if any did):
7.	I believe that the defendant(s)
	a Are still committing these acts against me. b Are not still committing these acts against me. (Complete this next item only if you checked "b" above) The last discriminatory act against me occurred on (date) /2 / 05/20
8.	(Complete this section only if you filed a complaint with the New York State Division of Human Rights)
	The date when I filed a complaint with the New York State Division of Human Rights is
	_ (estimate the date, if necessary)
	I filed that complaint in (identify the city and state):
	The Complaint Number was:
9.	The New York State Human Rights Commission did/did not issue a decision. (NOTE: If it did issue a decision, you must attach one copy of the decision to each copy of the complaint; failure to do so will delay the initiation of your case.)
10.	The date (if necessary, estimate the date as accurately as possible) I filed charges with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) regarding defendant's alleged discriminatory conduct is:
11.	The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission did/did not issue a decision. (NOTE: If it did issue a decision, you must attach one copy of the decision to each copy of the complaint; failure to do so will delay the initiation of your case.)
12.	The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission issued the attached Notice of Right to

did issue a Right to Sue letter, you <u>must</u> attach one copy of the decision to <u>each</u> copy of the complaint; failure to do so will delay the initiation of your case.)

13.	I am complaining in this action of the following types of actions by the defendants:							
	a	Failure to provide me wir	th reasonable accommodations to the application					
	b	Failure to employ me						
	c	Termination of my emplo	oyment					
	d	_ Failure to promote me						
	e	Failure to provide me wit the essential functions of	th reasonable accommodations so I can perform my job					
	f	Harassment on the basis	of my sex					
	g	Harassment on the basis of unequal terms and conditions of my employment						
	h	Retaliation because I com directed toward me	applained about discrimination or harassment					
	i	Retaliation because I comdirected toward others						
	j. <u> </u>	Other actions (please described CEOC median)	cribe) Failed to Comply with sedication & Concilation					
14.	Defendant's conduct is discriminatory with respect to which of the following (check all that apply):							
	a. R	Lace	f. V Sexual Harassment					
	b Color		g Age Date of birth					
	c Sex		h Disability					
	d R	Leligion	Are you incorrectly perceived as being disabled by your employer?					
	e Na	ational Origin	yes no					
15.	I believe that I defendant(s).	I was/was not	_ intentionally discriminated against by the					

16.	I believe that the defendant(s) is/are is not/are not still committing these acts against me. (If you answer is that the acts are not still being committed, state when:
	12/10/2022 and why the defendant(s) stopped committing these acts against you: I am ho proper employed (u) the the compare
	you. I will be project with the wright
17.	A copy of the charge to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission is attached to this complaint and is submitted as a brief statement of the facts of my claim. (NOTE: You must attach a copy of the original complaint you filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and a copy of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission affidavit to this complaint; failure to do so will delay initiation of your case.)
18.	The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (check one):  has not issued a Right to sue letter  has issued a Right to sue letter, which I received on
19.	State here as briefly as possible the <i>facts</i> of your case. Describe how each defendant is involved, including <i>dates</i> and <i>places</i> . Do not give any legal arguments or cite any cases or statutes. If you intend to allege a number of related claims, number and set forth each claim in a separate paragraph. (Use as much space as you need. Attach extra sheets if necessary.)
On the state of th	December 5" 2022 I was sexually harassed by Neil amover of the Irish Branshee Pub. I was coming out the Vitchen to go to the bathroom, Neil stopped me with yes. Later that night, we closed down the bar westowant, as we're beading out Neil wanted to oke a Cigarette and I took one we and Neil engaged of Conversation about Christmas. I explained to the I was fixing for daughter's Unistance are to might brouding for daughter's Unistance are to might being cut
FOR I	LITIGANTS ALLEGING <u>AGE DISCRIMINATION</u>
20.	Since filing my charge of age discrimination with the Equal Employment Opportunity  Commission regarding defendant's alleged discriminatory conduct  60 days or more have elapsed less than 60 days have elapsed
FOR I	LITIGANTS ALLEGING AN AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT CLAIM
21.	I first disclosed my disability to my employer (or my employer first became aware of my disability on

# **Question 19 Continued...**

- 1. Drastically. Neil then asked me if I knew what "List Crawlers" is, I said that I do not know what "List Crawlers" is; Neil continued on to say "I don't think you want to go down that route, but I know this girl who used to work here (The Irish Banshee Pub) she makes ton of money doing it"; I then asked Neil "what is List Crawlers?"; Neil replied "it's sex, it's basically a friends with benefits sort of thing". I stared at him in disbelief and politely informed him that "List Crawlers" is not a route I want to go because I am not that type of girl. We got in Neil's car heading to take me home.
- 2. During the ride, Neil decides to bring "List Crawlers" up again, stating that he has been married 19 years and he has used "List Crawlers" service a few times throughout his marriage. I immediately stopped engaging in conversation. I lived 8 minutes from The Irish Banshee Pub, as we are getting off at my exit, I asked Neil if we could stop at the store on the corner near my home, Neil agreed and then asked if the store sold beer and if it has an ATM, I confirmed that the store does sell beer and has an ATM. We go into the store and grab the things we needed, as we are exiting I noticed Neil did not stop at the ATM, so I asked him "you didn't want to stop at the ATM?"; Neil then says "umm no, not unless you wanted me to come home with you"; I then informed Neil that I have already declined to that sort of thing (sex) and that it is not my cup of tea. I then decided it was best for me to walk the rest of the way home, we parted ways.
- 3. In December of 2022, I resigned from my position at *The Irish Banshee Pub* as a line cook due to my hours not improving and I felt very uneasy and uncomfortable since the sexual harassment from Neil.
- 4. Prior to my resigning, I did ask Connor Hawkins about the reasoning for my hours being cut from 32+ hours a week to 16 hours or less. Connor informed me that there were really no hours available, I in turn asked Connor "if there are no hours available then why are the male cooks receiving all of their hours including overtime?". Connor did not have an answer for me, he only offered a janitorial position cleaning the bar, bathrooms, and dining areas in addition to the line cook position. I declined the janitorial employee: because that is not the position I was originally hired for, and I felt discriminated against being that I was the only African American employee; and the only female cook. The male cooks were also receiving higher pay than I was, for the same job title and responsibilities.
  - 5. On 12/19/2023, a year after filing a charge with the EEOC a mediation was conducted with a mediator, Connor Hawkins, and myself. The mediation failed because after I stated my reasoning for filing a charge with the EEOC, I was asked by the mediator to give a settlement number and I gave \$23,000, the mediator then went back to Connor

informing him of the amount and Connor declined, the mediator then came back to me and asked me to go below \$10,000 and I then offered \$8500, the mediator then went to Connor informing him of the new and this time Connor declined stating to the mediator he is not settling for any amount that is 3 or 5 figures and that he was not going to settle with me for no more than \$1,000. I declined the \$1,000 settlement offer, which then led to the charge to be entered into investigation. I then received a Letter of Determination on 04/09/2024 from the EEOC, stating that the Respondent (The Irish Banshee Pub) has failed to respond to their efforts. The charge was then moved into conciliation.

6. On 06/12/2024, I then received a *Right to Sue* letter stating that conciliation failed and that the EEOC will not file suit against the respondent (*The Irish Banshee Pub*).

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22.	The date on which I first asked my employer for reasonable accommodation of my disability is
23.	The reasonable accommodations for my disability (if any) that my employer provided to me are:
	_
24.	The reasonable accommodation provided to me by my employer were/were not effective.
	EREFORE, I respectfully request this Court to grant me such relief as may be appropriate, ding injunctive orders, damages, costs and attorney's fees.
Dated	1: 06/27/2024 gunin Catterder
	Plaintiff's Signature



# U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION Buffalo Local Office

Olympic Towers 300 Pearl Street, Suite 450 Intake Information Group: (800) 669-4000 Intake Information Group TTY: (800) 669-6820 Buffalo Direct Dial: (716) 541-5007 FAX BUFFAXMAIN@EEOC.GOV

**Charge No:** 525-2023-00477

Website: www.eeoc.gov

**Charging Party** 

Quania Crittenden 29 Roswell Place Tonawanda, NY 14150

Respondent

The Irish Banshee Pub Attention: Conor Hawkins 257 Franklin St. Buffalo, NY 14202

### **Respondent Attorney**

Chanel T. McCarthy Gross Shuman, PC 471 Delaware Ave. Buffalo, NY 14202

#### **DETERMINATION**

On behalf of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("Commission"), I issue the following determination on the merits of the subject charge filed under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (Title VII) and the Equal Pay Act (EPA.) Respondent is an employer within the meaning of Title VII and the EPA. All requirements for coverage have been met.

Charging Party, a Cook alleges that she was sexually harassed and paid at a lower hourly rate because of her race/Black and sex/female, and that in retaliation for having complained about race and sex discrimination, her work hours were reduced, and she was constructively discharged in December of 2022.

On July 28, 2023, EEOC sent to Respondent a Notice of Charge with a copy of Charging Party's charge of discrimination. Respondent was asked to produce a position statement within 30 days of the Notice of Charge. The EEOC also sent to Respondent a Request for Information letter via

EEOC Portal which response was due with the position statement. Respondent logged in EEOC Portal, but it never produced a position statement or a request for information response. Respondent was also offered the opportunity to mediate the case. On December 19, 2023, a follow up notification was sent to Respondent and Respondent's Legal Representative, Chanel T. McCarthy asking for a request for information response and position statement no later than January 3, 2024. No response was received. Finally, on February 16, 2024, EEOC sent to Respondent and Respondent's Legal Representative an Adverse Inference notification indicating that if within 10-days a response to the charge of discrimination and a request for information response were not received, the EEOC was going to give credit to Charging Party's allegations. However, no response was received.

The Commission has made adequate efforts to obtain a response from Respondent. However, Respondent has failed to produce a response. Consequently, the Commission has determined that Respondent violated Title VII and the EPA by subjecting Charging Party to sexual harassment and paying Charging Party at a lower hourly rate because of her race and sex, and subjecting Charging Party to retaliatory actions by reducing her scheduled hours which resulted in her constructive discharge.

This determination is final. The ADA requires that, if the Commission determines that there is reasonable cause to believe that violations have occurred, it shall endeavor to eliminate the alleged unlawful employment practices by informal methods of conference, conciliation, and persuasion. Having determined that there is reason to believe that violations have occurred, the Commission now invites Respondent to join with it in an effort toward a just resolution of this matter. Enclosed is a letter outlining the proposed terms of conciliation.

Disclosure of information obtained by the Commission during the conciliation process may only be made in accordance with the EPA and Title VII and the Commission's Procedural Regulations. The confidentiality provisions of Section 107 of Title VII and Commission Regulations apply to information obtained during conciliation.

If Respondent declines to enter into conciliation discussions, or when the Commission's representative is unable to secure an acceptable conciliation agreement, the Director shall so inform the parties, advising them of the court enforcement alternatives available to aggrieved persons and the Commission.

On behalf of the Commission:

Maureen C. Kielt Digitally signed by Maureen C. Kielt Date: 2024.04.09 11:54:40 -04'00'

Maureen C. Kielt, Director Buffalo Local Office



### U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

**Buffalo Local Office** 300 Pearl St, Suite 450 Buffalo, NY 14202 (716) 431-5007

Website: www.eeoc.gov

## CONCILIATION FAILURE AND NOTICE OF RIGHTS

(This Notice replaces EEOC FORMS 161, 161-A & 161-B)

Issued On: 06/12/2024

To: Miss Quania Crittenden 29 Boswell Place Tonawanda, NY 14150

Charge No: 525-2023-00477

**NELIDA SANCHEZ** EEOC Representative and email:

> Senior Investigator nelida.sanchez@eeoc.gov

#### CONCILIATION FAILURE OF CHARGE

To the person aggrieved: This notice concludes the EEOC s processing of the above-numbered charge. The EEOC found reasonable cause to believe that violations of the statute(s) occurred with respect to some or all of the matters alleged in the charge but could not obtain a settlement with the Respondent that would provide relief for you. In addition, the EEOC has decided that it will not bring suit against the Respondent at this time based on this charge and will close its file in this case. This does not mean that the EEOC is certifying that the Respondent is in compliance with the law, or that the EEOC will not sue the Respondent later or intervene later in your lawsuit if you decide to sue on your own behalf.

### NOTICE OF YOUR RIGHT TO SUE

This is official notice from the EEOC of the dismissal of your charge and of your right to sue. If you choose to file a lawsuit against the respondent(s) on this charge under federal law in federal or state court, your lawsuit must be filed WITHIN 90 DAYS of your receipt of this notice. Receipt generally occurs on the date that you (or your representative) view this document. You should keep a record of the date you received this notice. Your right to sue based on this charge will be lost if you do not file a lawsuit in court within 90 days. (The time limit for filing a lawsuit based on a claim under state law may be different.)

If you file suit, based on this charge, please send a copy of your court complaint to this office.

On behalf of the Commission,

Maureen C. Kielt Kielt

Digitally signed by Maureen C.

Date: 2024.06.12 13:25:24 -04'00'

Maureen Kielt Local Office Director Ce: Chanel T McCarthy Gross Shuman, P.C. 471 Delaware Ave. Buffalo, NY 14202

Conor Hawkins Banshee Irish Pub 257 Franklin St. Buffalo, NY 14202

Please retain this notice for your records.

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The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS	'. 1			DEFENDA	NTS						
Quania Crittenden				The I	Lris	sh B	Konsh	ec Pi	p		
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant							
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				NOTE: IN LA	ND COL	NDEMNAT	<i>LAINTIFF CA</i> ION CASES, U NVOLVED.	,	CATION OF	ı	
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name,	Address, and Telephone Numb	er)		Attorneys (If K							
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